

A METHOD TO DETECT MUTATIONS IN A NUCLEIC ACID USING A
HYBRIDIZATION-LIGATION PROCEDURE

Abstract of the Disclosure

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The present invention provides a method for detecting a mutation in a nucleic acid molecule which comprises contacting the nucleic acid molecule with a probe. The probe comprises two covalently linked nucleic acid segments under conditions such that the unlinked end of each segment of the probe is capable of hybridizing with the nucleic acid molecule. This mixture is then contacted with a ligase under conditions such that the two hybridized probe segments will ligate and bind the nucleic acid molecule if the nucleic acid molecule contains the mutation. One would then determine the presence of bound nucleic acid molecule(s) and thereby detect the mutation in the nucleic acid molecule.